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Dear Harold,

Here is my much overdue editing on Coup D'Etat. The suggested changes are often written out to give you a better flavor of what I have in mind, and the suggestions, while some are reasonably well worded and might be used as is if you agree, are not to be taken literally. I have a carbon of it if you would like me to send one to someone else for opinions on these suggested changes--perhaps someone else who has the manuscript. Other items are in my earlier letters.

In response to your letter of 6/11, agreed on Butler. That's why I was insistent on you seeing it. You should also listen to the record. I'll send you the next when I get it. I wrote for it once, sent a check, and then they mailed another of the first issue. I wrote again and asked for the second, with the second part of his article, offering to mail back the extra copy of the first, but they haven't answered.

On Viking, it would have been interesting to ask the SOB what their criteria are--the ones he refers to in his letter.

Good luck in getting replies from the office.

Good luck to Nichols in checking on Navy regulations. I wrote a long time ago (you have a carbon) and never got a reply. I tried the Phila. naval base.

On your 6/13: amazing to hear from the Herrons--they are the poorest correspondents I know, but they're great people.

On Sirhan mental tests, those on the West Coast do not reply. They may not have been put into the record. It is possible to get away without doing this. When I was an expert witness several months ago, they got away with this against me because my lawyer wasn't on the ball. Had they introduced them, I could have thrown up much flak. As it turned out, I almost wiped them out during the cross-examination by tripping them up so badly they didn't know which end was up, but the lawyer fouled it up in his summation and blew the case. I could not get them professionally. The only way that could be accomplished would be if Sirhan was to be a patient of ours. Or, one other possibility would be if Sirhan gave permission, but that is way out, even if I could communicate with him, and really of nil probability.

Lifton and the Powell thing: Lifton claimed that he told me it on the phone (not mentioning Powell's name, so my reply was quite biting, since it referred to him by name) and that I told Fred, and perhaps you, even though, allegedly, it was in confidence. I really ruined him with that one.

Lifton is raving. He hid it extremely well when he first began communicating with me, and probably did the same with Fred, although he would be especially afraid of me because of my training. He still hides it from some on the West Coast. Almost everyone thinks him a nut, though, and Vince said that a number of years ago he freaked out and disappeared for a few days and had everyone worried, and also that Ray took him into an emergency center one time when he flipped his lid, but then got scared when the psychiatrist focused on his ideas about the assassination being a conspiracy as his major symptom. (This is typical of psychiatrists.)

I'll write Paul about Z. Good idea. I should have thought of it. Will ask on Farewell, but am almost positive that Fred only has the Z film part.

I am in a rush for none of what I sent you. If I think something might be useful, especially in regard to Coup, I rush it off without asking, figuring that the return postage from your end isn't big burden considering my reasonably good judgment in the past about what would interest you.

Many thanks for all of the stuff on the West Coast people. I have the strong feeling that they are a bit two faced--all of them--including Ray, Maggie, and Bill. Lillian sounds a bit crazy besides, and that is probably her problem. I doubt if

Lifton is significantly distorting that. Many thanks for all of the info and the documentary stuff. I sent Fred a 5 page letter and am sending a copy to Dick Bernabei, George Rennar, Lifton (along with another indictment of him), and Paul and Hal in SF. I don't know about Paul, but Hal is not very negative about Lifton, probably because he sees only one side of him. By the way, I have sent copies of earlier letters to Fred to some of the same people, hoping to make a record known to a number of people that many false charges and ravings are floating around from both Fred and Dave. Fred and Marlynn will have trouble living with my last letter to them. This will be a good test of what they are made of.

I have similar impressions of Ray Marcus. My impressions of Hal are of a great guy and excellent researcher primarily, but I do think that being where he is leads to trouble because of inevitable association with Turner and Lifton.

On Olson, as soon as I get them, I will make you two sets, and send one to Dick directly. On Murr, though, I think that Reed may be right, especially since Fred for a while was sending me copies of his few letters to Gary, and they, if anything, tried to get the guys to work together. Fred has spoken to me about this. But no one has heard much from Gary Murr.

As for motive with the West Coast slanders, I would tend to agree about failure, etc. But there is another important factor with a number of the older, and first generation critics: they have quit, want to be remembered for their early discoveries which now are never mentioned and seem unexciting, and yet they have retired. You should, therefore, bring out more resentment than anyone, since you are the only first generation critic who has not retired, and who was really active in the Garrison thing. (Excepting Penn and Dave Lifton, of course, but they are both crazy, and what they have done counts little.) Furthermore, you have been the one who has called upon them for help, for memos, etc., and they have not come through, probably largely out of laziness. Even now you still await things from Maggie and others out there.

As for the charges, my letter to Fred indicated that I feel the need of absolutely nothing more from you, that I find the charges pretty close to 100% incorrect, and that everything which could be directly checked I found one hundred percent in your favor and indicative of dishonesty on the part of those making the charges, and that the rest was strongly supported in your favor based on the available evidence. I also pointed out that many of the charges were malicious lies, 100% refuted, and far worse than just gross exaggerations which were overstated. I also indicated that I think little of people who call you a liar about something which, even if their facts were correct, which they are not, would indicate only a biased account, something their own descriptions of event sare subject to. So spend no more time on this. They do not have a leg to stand on now and won't in the future, and the case I presented has started its circulation. Perhaps at least one good thing has come out of it: it has fereted out the people who would engage in such a thing and set the record straight for those who are appealed to by facts and reason.

Enclosed is a copy of that letter from Vince which I mentioned before and you wanted a copy of. It is a very cold letter compared to his usual to me. I think I can understand the type of disagreements and such in it and in your feelings about it. Also enclosed are my last letter to Paul R. and to Dick Bernabei.

Thanks again for all your trouble. If you want to see a copy of that letter I mailed Fred, I can send one, but will need it back, since I only have one left. I should have made more, but didn't realize until it was half typed that I would want to circulate it.

Best wishes. I hope that this finds both you and your wife in good health.

Gary